

In re Patent Application of:

MAY ET AL.

Serial No. 10/790,479

Filing Date: MARCH 1, 2004

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application, and for the courtesies extended to the undersigned attorney during the telephonic interview of June 13, 2006. During the interview, the rejection of the claims based upon Sakayori et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0218642) in view of Nelson (U.S. Patent No. 6,823,184) was discussed. In particular, the undersigned attorney reiterated the argument set forth in the Response filed January 25, 2006 that there was no proper motivation to combine the references as proposed by the Examiner. This is because Nelson teaches away from such a selective combination, and this combination would change the principle of operation of the Sakayori et al. system. The Examiner agreed that this was indeed the case, and he agreed to withdraw the current rejection of the claims accordingly.

The Examiner and the undersigned attorney further discussed clarifying the independent claims to more distinctly define the subject matter thereof over Nelson. In particular, the undersigned attorney proposed clarifying the audio message mode as a "hands-free" audio message mode. This potential clarification was favorably received by the Examiner, and he indicated that the independent claims as so clarified would likely overcome the prior art of record. As such, this clarification to independent Claims 1, 9, 16, and 20 has been made accordingly, and support therefor may be found in paragraphs 0003, 0028, 0031, and 0048 of the originally filed specification, for example. No new matter is being added.

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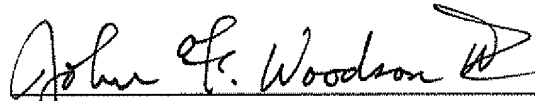
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In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all of the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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